

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059223

TOSEC 22

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), PFOR

SUBJECT: CBS REPORT ON CHOU EN-LAI SPEECH

FOLLOWING IS TEXT DON WEBSTER CBS RADIO REPORT FROM HONG KONG ON CHOU EN-LAI ADDRESS AT DINNER FOR JULIUS NYERERE, MARCH 24:

QUOTE: THE COMMENTS WERE MADE IN PEKING AT A DINNER HONORING JULIUS NYERERE OF TANZANIA. AS WITH SOME OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN RECENT WEEKS IT MAY INDICATE A HARDNING OF CHINA'S STANCE AGAINST THE WESTERN WORLD, OR AT LEAST A LESSENING OF THE FRIENDLINESS OF THE PAST TWO YEARS. IN HIS SPEECH THE PREMIER SAID THERE WERE TWO SUPER POWERS IN THE WORLD. APPARENTLY REFERRING TO THE UNITED STATES, HE SAID, ONE OF THEM IS BESET WITH TROUBLES BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD AND IS HAVING A HARD TIME. THEN APPARENTLY REFERRING TO RUSSIA, HE SAID, THE OTHER SUPER POWER ENTERTAINS WILD AMBITIONS

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BUT LACKS THE STRENGTH TO ACHIEVE THEM. THE TWO SUPER

POWERS AT TIMES TALK ABOUT DETENTE BUT IN ACTUALITY THEY
ARE ENGAGED IN AN INTENSE RIVALRY. UNQUOTE

COMMENT: CHOU'S STATEMENT IN THE NYERERE BANQUET SPEECH
IS STANDARD FARE IN PRC RHETORIC ABOUT US-SOVIET RELATIONS.
NONETHELESS, THE REITERATION OF THE LINE ON THE EVE OF THE
SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE USSR THAT, TRY AS THEY MAY,
MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON CANNOT ACHIEVE REAL DETENTE, SUGGESTS
THAT CHOU WANTED TO REASSURE ANY DOUBTERS IN PEKING THAT
THEY NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT THE VISIT.
RUSH

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